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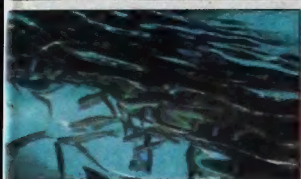
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LOOK INSIDE



Help raise fish

The outdoors association seeks more volunteers at its fish hatchery.

See page 3



River makeover

Much progress has been made on Riverwalk with more to come in 2009.

See page 5



Being thrifty

New store will donate some of its profits to the Minden Food Bank.

See page 4

In Quotes

"(New Year's Eve) is going to be a sign of what's to come during the rest of the year. A hundred and fifty years is something to really be proud of."

Minden Hills
Reeve Jim McMahon
page 10

Happy 150th birthday, Minden!

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The year 2009 is practically here and the village of Minden is ready to celebrate its sesquicentennial

anniversary in style.

Tonight an evening full of events will kick off a year of celebrations to mark the village's 150th birthday.

The New Year will commence

with a torch-lit parade from Minden's downtown to the community centre. Minden's 1st Scout Group will light the way starting at 8:15 p.m. and then ignite a unique bonfire consisting

of Mindenites' Christmas trees.

An early New Year's countdown will take place at 9 p.m. and will be followed by a fireworks display.

see 150TH PARTY page 10

Wind storm blows the lights out

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The windstorm that swept through the county on December 28 left thousands without power and proved to be a boon for some of the area's businesses.

A number of businesses north of Minden reported having an unusually busy Sunday last weekend and shopkeepers said they thought the surge in business was directly related to the power outage.

"We were definitely busier than we usually are on Sunday," said Brad Archer, who owns the Millpond Restaurant in Carnarvon.

Archer said he probably served 50 patrons more than usual last Sunday and said he thought many were residents and cottagers from the area who had been left without power.

According to Hydro One, the area around Boshkung and Halls lakes was one of the hardest hit by storm, leaving approximately 1,200 customers there without electricity.

Eddie Yang manages The Hub Esso and convenience store at the corner of Hwys. 35 and 118 in Carnarvon and said he saw a huge influx of customers on Sunday afternoon.

"Hwy. 60 was closed, so police

see HAWK LAKE page 8



Chad Ingram/TIMES

Hydro crews worked on December 29 to resurrect a hydro pole on Winding Creek Road near Archie Stouffer Elementary School. It had fallen during the previous day's windstorm. Crews came from across Ontario to help, moving from one area of the province to another. Hydro hopes to have all the power restored to homes and cottages in the Highlands by this morning.

Only three drivers charged in RIDE program

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

It seems that Haliburton drivers are being fairly responsible this holiday season.

Haliburton Highlands OPP spokesman Const. Mark McMaster said this week that while officers from the detachment have stopped 4,240 vehicles in the county as part of the OPP's annual festive RIDE (Reduce Impaired Driving

Everywhere) campaign, three people have been charged with alcohol-related driving offences.

"That's not bad," McMaster said. "Certainly we'd like to see it at zero."

McMaster, who said he wasn't sure what the Haliburton stats from last year's campaign were, said a 12-hour licence suspension was also issued for a non-alcohol-related driving infraction.

The campaign started on

November 28 and will continue until January 2, McMaster said, adding that police are patrolling both major highways and secondary and residential roads as part of the program.

"We could be anywhere," he said.

According to the OPP website, there's been an 18 per cent reduction in drinking and driving charges from last year's festive RIDE program.

MINDEN



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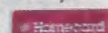


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BOBCAYGEON RD. MINDEN

Police plead for common sense when driving in the winter

by MATT JAMES
Times Staff

An incident involving a man, his motorcycle, and two of the biggest snowstorms in 2008 was enough for Ontario Provincial Police to issue a press release reminding the public to refrain from unnecessary travel in severe weather conditions.

As Environment Canada meteorologists were busy dubbing last week's snowstorms as a possible 'snow-mageddon', a City of Kawartha Lakes OPP officer saw a

motorcycle being operated by a person dressed in full winter gear.

The officer was able to convince the motorcyclist that his actions were not only a danger to himself but also created a visual distraction to others in near-zero-visibility conditions.

"I haven't seen anything like that here," says Haliburton Highlands OPP Const. Mark McMaster. "We haven't actually been too bad during the snowstorms.... I was shocked. I don't know if people just didn't go out or if they just slowed down."

But that's not to say police didn't receive any calls.

From December 17 to December 23 McMaster said there were 16 minor accidents reported and from December 24 to December 29, there were 10 minor accidents reported.

Safe winter driving is a challenge at the best of times, even with snow tires and slower speeds. Included in the police press

release were a few tips for safe winter driving and how to be prepared.

- Leave yourself plenty of extra time for all trips — your trip will take longer
- Drive with care and avoid all unnecessary passing
- Ensure that your vehicle has tires with a safe tread depth
- Do not become over-confident just because you have snow tires or four-wheel drive

• Should you break down or slide off the road expect that you may experience substantial time delays in getting assistance. This can mean extended periods of time in cold temperatures

- Have the following items in your vehicle: adequate fuel supply, a shovel — which can assist you with freeing your vehicle and be utilized to clear the area of your vehicle's exhaust system so that you can safely idle your vehicle while waiting for assistance — warm clothing and blankets or sleeping bag, and a candle and matches.

McMaster says that in a rural area like Haliburton County it's very important to tell people where you're going and your estimated time of arrival.

"And stay on the main roads if you can, as much as you can," he said.

Matt James/TIMES



Snow tires like these can make a huge difference when driving on snow-covered roads compared to an all-season tire. However, common sense and slower speeds can also make a difference.

And just because speed limits on signs don't change in the winter, it doesn't mean you should go that speed.

"If you look at the section for careless driving under the highway traffic act, I believe it says something about driving without due care and attention," he said. "So certainly if you're in a snowstorm and you're exceeding what's a reasonable speed for the conditions, that section could apply [to drivers in an accident]."

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It takes a village to raise 300,000 fish

Outdoors association seeks volunteers
to help out at its Gelert Road fish hatchery

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The Haliburton Fish Hatchery is looking for volunteers as it gets cracking on raising another generation of lake trout.

While the hatchery, located just south of Haliburton, already has about 30 volunteer fish-feeders, Don McLeod, chairman of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association's hatchery committee, said earlier this month that the association is always looking for more.

"[Trout fry] have to be handfed every 20 minutes for two to three weeks," McLeod said.

The hatchery currently contains about 21,000 trout, which make their home in the hatchery's long, plastic tanks. Many of these trout are juveniles, approaching a year in age, and will be used to stock Haliburton County's lakes in the spring.

There is also a new generation just breaking free from their eggs.

Hundreds of eggs, just about size of peas, sit in incubation trays under the glare of red lights.

"Most of them will hatch between Christmas and New Year's," McLeod said.

As MacLeod explains, association volunteers and employees of the MNR retrieve the eggs each October through a process known as "milking."

Essentially, this process involves netting

fish near spawning grounds in Kushog and Halls lakes, taking them to shore where their eggs are squeezed from their bodies and then returning them unharmed to the water.

The hatchery sees the fish through the green egg, eyed egg, sac-fry, fry, fingerling and juvenile stages before volunteers release them back into the wild at the age of 16 or so months.

Trout become mature — or sexually reproductive — between the ages of five and six years.

Left alone in the wild and subject to predators, many eggs would not make it to the juvenile stage.

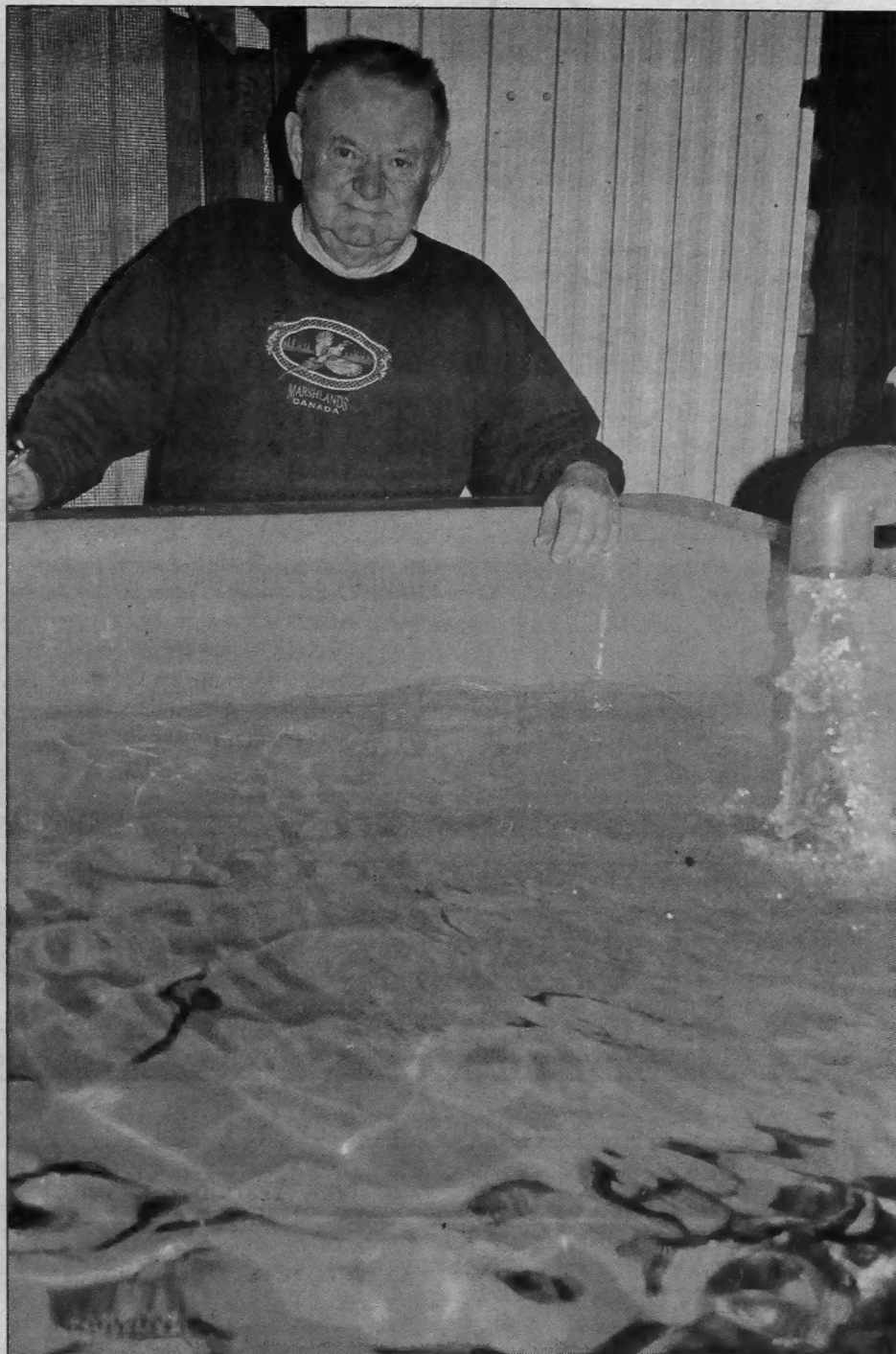
Trout will be stocked in whatever lakes are deemed in need by the Ministry of Natural Resources at the time.

Since it opened in 1998, the hatchery has stocked Haliburton's lakes with nearly 100,000 lake trout, as well as rainbow trout, brook trout and walleye.

In all the hatchery has produced more 300,000 fish and its volunteers put in a collective 16,000 a year.

The hatchery, with its tours and interactive exhibits, also draws about 2,000 visitors each summer. "We've become a tourist attraction," said Leora Berman, the association's project co-ordinator.

To learn more about the hatchery or to become a volunteer, contact the association at 457-9664.



Chad Ingram/TIMES

Don McLeod, president of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association's hatchery committee, checks on small trout in one of the hatchery's tanks. The facility has hatched more than 300,000 fish since it began operations in 1998.



In these photos from the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, volunteers work through the night to catch lake trout and then "milk" their eggs. The fish are returned



to the water unharmed and the eggs are taken to the Haliburton fish hatchery, where they are fed and nurtured by volunteers until released as fish into area lakes.

Rain and melting snow lead to high water level warning

The Trent-Severn Waterway warns that the recent heavy rainfall across the corridor, combined with snow melt in the Haliburton area, have raised water levels and increased

river flows at many locations within the Trent and Severn watersheds. The potential exists for high water and flooding in traditional low lying areas.

For public safety, it is important that people stay clear of all dams, control structures, lock chambers and riverbanks. Parks Canada staff are working to manage

the high water volumes and are making dam adjustments as quickly as possible.

Bulletins will be issued if necessary. Check for updates at mindentimes.ca.



Chad Ingram/TIMES

Library well underway

Construction crews work on the Minden Hills Library on December 29. The 5,000-square-foot facility will hold 10,000 books and is scheduled to open this spring. A campaign to raise \$50,000 to furnish the new building was kicked off earlier this year. Donations can be made by calling the township office. Larger donations will allow different rooms in the library as well pieces of furniture to be adorned with plaques bearing the donor's name. The library expansion was made possible by an \$887,000 grant the township received from the provincial government.

Find a bargain and help the hungry at new thrift store

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

A new Minden business is doing its part to help feed hungry people in the area.

The First and Second Hand Store, a thrift and antiques shop, opened its doors on December 1 and will be giving 15 per cent of its profits to the Minden food bank for the next year.

"We're not a not-for-profit [organization]," said Judy Casteels, who runs the shop along with her husband, landscaper Brent Cartwright. "We have to pay our overheads."

Rather, Casteels describes the store as "a hybrid between a private [business] and a not-for-profit [organization]."

Casteels said each month for next year, 15 per cent of the shop's profits will go to the food bank. Also, each time someone makes a donation to the store, the couple will donate \$3 to the food bank.

The donation jar sits right by the cashier's counter.

Cluttered with clothing, plates, picture frames and figurines, Casteels said the shop's inventory is acquired from three sources.

"We buy from auction and we take good antique stuff and donation stuff," she said.



Chad Ingram/TIMES

Judy Casteels and her husband Brent Cartwright show off some of the wares available at the couple's new thrift store, located on Minden's Bobcaygeon Road.

Casteels said the shop accepts donations of clothing, appliances, TVs, stereos, tools and various knickknacks, but asked that donations be left only during hours when the shop is open. "We already had somebody drop off 12 bags of garbage," she said.

An explanation for the Minden residents' generosity may lay in the fact that Casteels is a social worker on contract with Haliburton's Community Access Centre.

For the past nine years, she has been working as a social enterprise co-ordinator, helping to develop private business designed to address public problems.

"A lot of not-for-profits have difficulties making ends meet," she said, adding that keeping as many items as possible out of landfills is another reason behind the shop.

"It's a lot about waste-diversion," she said.

So far, Casteels said reaction to the business has been positive.

"People are excited that there's a store like this in Minden," she said.

In a year's time, the two say they will start giving part of the shop's profits to a different local charity.

In the meantime, Cartwright is expanding the business with what he calls a "downsizing service."

For a fee, he will clean out the home of someone who moving, or the house of a deceased family member, sort items, deliver waste to an appropriate location, see that other items are placed in storage and take what the owner will allow back to the shop.

"People have to remember, the more they give, the more we will be able to give," Cartwright said.

Cartwright and Casteels hope they will be able to increase the amount of profit they give to local charities.

The store does not yet have a sign, but is located at 150 Bobcaygeon Road, beside Sears. The shop is closed on Wednesdays and Sundays, open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and open from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on the remaining days of the week.

Anyone interested in Cartwright's downsizing service can contact him at 286-6441.

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Minden Hills plants a few more ideas for Riverwalk

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Minden's Riverwalk project continues to take shape.

Just before Christmas, four trees – one maple and three pines – were planted along the Riverwalk pathway near Invergordon Avenue.

The Rotary Club of Minden donated the trees.

"The Rotary Club was successful in a grant application (from the Rotary organization)," said Minden Hills deputy clerk and Riverwalk co-ordinator, Laura Cunliffe. "They matched the grant and sponsored the trees to be planted."

The trees were planted by Claudio Bortolissi and Gino Capazzoli of Highland Park Homes, the company currently building a subdivision off of Deep Bay Road.

"They worked tirelessly into the night," Cunliffe said.

She said 2009 should be a major year for the Riverwalk project.

"Now that the pathway is done we've got to take a good look at what we'll do next," she said.

The pathway runs along both sides of the Gull River, extending north from the Main Street bridge.

Cunliffe said that more trees are planned for the walkway and that the foundations for the pedestrian bridge planned to span the Gull River near the Wild Swan Bed and



Chad Ingram/TIMES

From left, Rotarians Brent Devolin, Bill Roodenburg and Joanna Penfold stand with Riverwalk co-ordinator Laura Cunliffe and Claudio Bortolussi and Gino Capazzoli of Highland Park Homes near one of the four trees the Rotary club recently donated to the Riverwalk project. Highland Park Homes planted the four trees, which include three pines and one maple, on December 12.

Breakfast were recently completed.

The bridge itself – a steel arch with a wooden deck – is expected to arrive and be installed in May, Cunliffe said.

It is currently under construction with Kitchener's Eagle Ridge and will come with an estimated price tag of \$66,000.

The total project costs for the Riverwalk project are estimated at a quarter-million dollars, with funds coming from Minden Hills township, the Haliburton County Development Corporation and donations from businesses, individuals and organizations.

The Riverwalk Committee held a fundraising lottery earlier this month, which Cunliffe called "a great success."

She said further fundraising events would likely take place in the spring.

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Box 360, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Phone (705) 286-1288 Fax (705) 286-4768
email: editor@mindentimes.ca
PAP registration No. 10673

We acknowledge the financial assistance of the Government of Canada through
the Publications Assistance Program (PAP) toward newspaper mailing costs

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

New year, new hopes

A NEW YEAR always brings with it a new beginning, a fresh slate and a chance to aspire to new hopes and dreams. 2009 will be a particularly important year for the village of Minden as it will celebrate its sesquicentennial anniversary on April 1.

A number of events in town on New Year's Eve will kick off a year of celebrations and Minden Hills staff and the sesquicentennial planning committee should be thanked for the time and effort they have put into organizing a year's worth of events.

A hundred and fifty years as a community is no small milestone to achieve and Minden residents should be proud and take 2009 as a time to reflect on the village's history.

A number of rugged 19th-century pioneers braved the rough landscape and harsh winters of the Canadian Shield to settle what would become of modest but thriving centre for logging and mining throughout the 1800s.

For those unfamiliar with Minden's rich history, the upcoming year seems like an ideal opportunity to familiarize one's self with the village's past.

Of course, along with reflecting on Minden's history, part of reaching such a milestone should also be looking ahead to Minden's future.

Just what do the village's residents want their village to become?

While it has transformed itself from a modest logging town into one of Haliburton County's tourist hubs over the last century and a half, Minden still has some obstacles in its path.

Minden Hills council and staff are continuously working to make Minden a bigger and better tourist destination, which is important as it continues to compete with Haliburton and the ever-popular tourist destinations of the Muskokas for tourist dollars.

Putting more thought and more resources into this endeavour during the upcoming year and the years to follow will be important in assuring that the village has a bright and viable future.

Minden also has a hospital that is greatly understaffed. As its population continues to grow and to age, it's vital that more doctors be brought into the village to address its growing number of health concerns.

Of course, like many small-town residents across Canada, Mindenites will have to buckle down and join together during the current economic crisis engulfing the country. While in such times it is natural for people to tighten their proverbial belts, it's also important, especially in a small community, for residents to continue to support the local economy.

Now more than ever, Mindenites should be making an effort to buy locally.

There are also a few business spaces about town with "For Sale" and "For Rent" signs in their windows. Perhaps 2009 could be the year for some would-be business-owners to follow their entrepreneurial dreams and fill these vacancies.

As Minden Hills Reeve Jim McMahon recently said, "Minden has weathered a depression and a recession and it'll make it through this."

And McMahon is right. Minden will make it through this, and likely with an all-knowing and hard-working grin on its face.

Most of all, 2009 should be a time for Minden residents to embrace and appreciate each other – the vibrant and hardworking people who have steered their community through 150 years.

Happy New Year.

Chad Ingram



IMAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS

Growing towards a spring release

Photo by Chad Ingram/Times

Attracting new business biggest challenge, MPP says

by PEGGY ARMSTRONG
Special to The Times

Attracting new business to the riding is one of the biggest challenges for the New Year, says local MPP Laurie Scott.

Small businesses shouldn't be tied up in as much red tape as they are, she says, adding that she wants to see taxes on small businesses reduced as well to make companies more competitive with the United States and other provinces.

"We have to look at how we became a have-not province and why Newfoundland is not now and we are. We should be embarrassed."

She said the economic climate could be seen to be changing for a few years. She pointed to the loss of 240,000

manufacturing jobs over the past few years as an obvious signal.

With a riding as vast as Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, Scott said it's critical to get more high-speed Internet access to smaller communities to stimulate job creation. She noted that Haliburton County has generally had the lowest household income in Ontario, in part due to the high number of seasonal jobs. She wants tourism to become year-round in the region.

"The best way to help people is to give them jobs."

The Conservative MPP said the area doesn't currently have the population for more public transportation, but she strongly supports the commuter train coming to

see SCOTT page 7

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IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Neext yeare

Seeing how this is my last column of 2008, I think it is only fitting that I make a resolution or two. This, as we all know, is not something to be taken lightly. That's why I have given it quite a bit of thought over the last ten minutes or so.

The way I see it, I need to commit to something that will improve the world around me. More than that, it should also broaden my perspectives and make me a better person. Obviously, this is no simple task.

Having said that, I have done some serious soul searching. And, after an honest self-assessment, I have found myself wanting in one vital area.

That's why in 2009 I pledge to use more vowels.

I know, I know. Everyone promises that they'll use more vowels in the new year. It's one of those resolutions that ranks right up there with spending more time with the family or quitting smoking. The difference, however, is that I actually

mean to follow through with it.

It won't be easy. Then again, no significant historical achievement ever is. But deep in my heart, I know it needs to be done.

As difficult as this is for me to admit, my work is embarrassingly heavy on consonants. In fact, I once wrote a critical essay that did not use a single vowel. And, not surprisingly, it was misunderstood and rejected outright by my editors. I followed up with a story about toboggans and trucks. More palatable, yes; more vowel-filled, no.

This year I'm trying to find balance, which is a monumental task. Even the word balance has 33 percent more consonants than vowels, so you can see what I'm up against.

And yet, if I am to make this world a better place, this is what I must do.

Admittedly, using more vowels seems like a very insignificant thing. That is, until you recall that the journey of one thousand miles starts with a single step – and a consonant.

That's got to change.

Ye Olde English had it right. They'd tack on vowels at the drop of a hat. If they didn't do that they'd steal a word from the French and call it a chapeau, which has far more vowels, you'll note.

This lent a certain elegance and dignity to the language. Better still, no one

could actually tell whether you spelled the word wrong by mistake, due to laziness, or by intention. The closest thing we have to that right now is email.

Then again, back in the days of yore, every day life was much simpler too. If

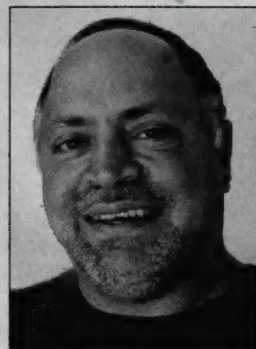
you thought someone was a witch, for instance, you'd submerged them in a pond. If they survived after a few minutes, they were guilty as charged. If not, well, you owed them a heartfelt apology. There were no lawyers or courts to muddy the waters. And there were lots of vowels too. Coincidence?

All I know is that these days we've walked away from our linguistic roots. We've taken out unnecessary vowels just for the sake of standardization, brevity, and clarity. And, as you can tell by this column, I am not a huge fan of any of these concepts.

With that in mind, I will endeavour to use more vowels in 2009 for your edification. As I have previously noted, this might be the most difficult thing I have ever attempted.

Maybe so, but I think I.O.U. that much.

*I can be reached at
TheOutdoorLife@aol.com*



BEYOND35

Steve Galea

An equal chance to die

I KNOW EXACTLY where my Owen Sound nephews are and where they will be in the months ahead.

The eldest of them soon will be going back to Thunder Bay for another semester at Lakehead University, the second to Taiwan for a teaching job, the third to Hamilton, where he is a freshman at McMaster University. Pretty ordinary stuff.

Robert Thomas James Mitchell was also from Owen Sound. If he had any uncles, they also know exactly where he is, exactly where he has been since October 3, 2006, when he died for a corporal's pay building a road in Afghanistan.

All across Canada, from Spiritwood, Sask., to Tatamagouche, N.S., this season is full of mourning for young men who gave so much back to a country that often gave them very little.

Once they were babies held in uncles' arms, small boys gone fishing, young teenagers playing hockey. Now they are dashed hopes.

A friend whose judgment I trust said I should not write this column in this sea-

son of hope when grief and loss and pain seem so out of place.

But it is just now that we should think of the hole left in the lives of a hundred and more Canadian families, so many of them from small towns like Minden, so many of them grown up rural and poor.

It is a subject that has been gnawing at me since I looked at the list of the first hundred to die of Afghanistan, at the photographs of a hundred faces, at the story of the first Canadian to fall under enemy fire.

For that first man to fall in action, Sgt. Robert Alan Short of Fredericton, the military was an escape from hopelessness, from teenaged fatherhood, a trailer park and making ends meet with dead-end jobs. Good for the military that they gave his life meaning. Good for him, too, while it lasted. Bad for us, bad for a country that thinks it is fair to send a

poor man's son halfway across the world to die while a stockbroker's son sips latte in a Vancouver Starbucks.

Perhaps there are plenty of sons and daughters of the urban middle class fighting for their country but, based on the list of the first hundred lives extinguished, not many of them are dying.

Twenty-three of the first hundred were from the East Coast, which has seven per cent of Canada's population, most of them from places you have never heard of, places like Burgeo, Nfld., Mill Cove, N.S., and

Geary, N.B. Not one of the hundred was from Vancouver.

Newfoundland had seven of the dead, one more than Toronto and its suburbs. At the Newfoundland rate, the count for the Greater Toronto Area would have been 77, and Toronto's estimate of the justness of the war might be much

different.

A country that cannot afford to send its young men and women to university can find the money to put them in harm's way. The sergeant who was the first to die could have been rescued from his hopelessness with a job that lifted others out of poverty, but instead his country sent him on a fool's errand.

Our young men die, we say, to defend democracy and religious freedom, to root out terrorists, to rebuild a failed state, but our actions in the rest of the world, in China and Saudi Arabia, in Pakistan and Somalia, put the lie to those claims.

This is risky talk. If you admire the courage of our soldiers in Afghanistan, as I do, you seem to defend the war. If you criticize the war, as I just did, you seem to diminish the brave men who fight it.

I believe it is not a cause worth dying for. If you disagree, I propose that you ask your country to introduce a universal draft by lottery and give a rich man's son an equal chance to die for his country.

neilcampbell@xplornet.com



BACK OF BEYOND

Neil Campbell

Scott says four-lane Hwy 35 would help tourism

from page 6

Peterborough, which would attract more people to move to local communities.

Scott said she is also championing the four-laning of Highway 35 and hopes local governments will help her advocate for it.

She hopes to see Hwy 35 go to four lanes around Hwy 7 in a couple of years, but she's urging that the entire highway, from

Hwy 115 to Lindsay, be four lanes. The change would help bring more business this way, she said.

Looking back on the year, Scott said the highlight for her on a political level was her efforts to introduce a bill on apprenticeship ratios. Currently, the province requires a one-on-one ratio for the first apprentice, and a three-to-one ratio for the second or more. So, for example, a plumber could

have one apprentice who he trains himself, but if he took on a second apprentice, there must be three certified plumbers to provide training.

"When I nursed I didn't have three nurses watching me all the time and it was life and death," she noted.

Scott said the bill didn't pass, in large part because of opposition from trade unions. She said by controlling the number

of graduates, unions can keep wages "artificially high".

Earlier this month, the Auditor General of Ontario found that less than half of apprentices finish their training. Scott said the roadblocks to getting into trades, which need skilled help, are sending young people to other provinces.

Despite the setback she's optimistic. "I'm hoping its day will come."

Hawk Lake last to get power back

from page 1

were sending people down here so they could take the 118," he said.

While he said he enjoyed the business, Yang said a number of people seemed disgruntled by the detour.

"It was dealing with a lot of frustrated people, so that wasn't that nice," he said.

The manager of Carnarvon's Jug City, across from The Hub, also said that last Sunday was "unusually busy."

The Pepper Mill, just south of Carnarvon, has also been busier during the last few days. "We're busy, that's for sure," said owner Greg Turner.

While Turner said the period between

Christmas and New Year's is normally quite busy for his steak house, the power outage has made a noticeable difference.

"I'd say were up 10 to 15 per cent," he said.

Hydro One spokesman Bill Smeaton said that about 1,400 Haliburton County customers were still without power on Tuesday morning, most in the Hawk and Drag lakes areas. "It's fairly widespread," he said.

Smeaton said the company had reconnected approximately 6,000 customers since Monday and said the majority of customers would have power by 11 p.m. on Tuesday.

However, he said it could be into Wednesday before some residents in the Hawk Lake area had their power back.



Mike Baum/Special to the TIMES

Dorset realtor Mike Baum says there was "some incredible wind damage" in the northern end of the county on Sunday. "Branches and trees were down everywhere as the wind howled without mercy for many hours." He took this photo of a tree that fell on a hydro wire, causing a small fire. Power was out in the region for 30 hours. For those who remember having to spend hours every day shovelling or plowing their driveways, he says that a weekend of rain reduced the metre of snow to half that.



HOCKEY FANS! Come Out for an Evening of Action! Cheer them on!

Sunday, January 11th @ 6:00 p.m.
RiverKings vs Maire

Thursday, January 22nd @ 6:00 p.m.
RiverKings vs Bradford

Sunday, February 1st @ 6:00 p.m.
RiverKings vs Elliot Lake

S. G. Nesbitt Arena - Minden



New Year's Eve PARTY

Fun For the Entire Family

8PM

Join in the Torch Walk from Downtown
to the Community Centre

8:30 PM ~ Bonfire
9 PM ~ Fireworks

Upstairs in the Community Centre!
Tickets \$20.00

Doors Open 7:30PM

Music By Gord Kidd & the 50/50 Rockin Country Band
Midnight Buffet

To Reserve Your Tickets Call
Minden Hills TWP Office
286-1260 EX. 200



Downstairs on the Ice!
6:30-8:30PM FREE FAMILY SKATE
TEENS -DJ SKATING - DANCING - PIZZA
Youth & Teen Skate & Pizza Party
\$5.00 admission

More info www.minden150.ca



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Saturday, January 24

\$15
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\$20
at the Door

Minden Community Centre
Doors open at 7 PM
Show starts at 7:30 PM



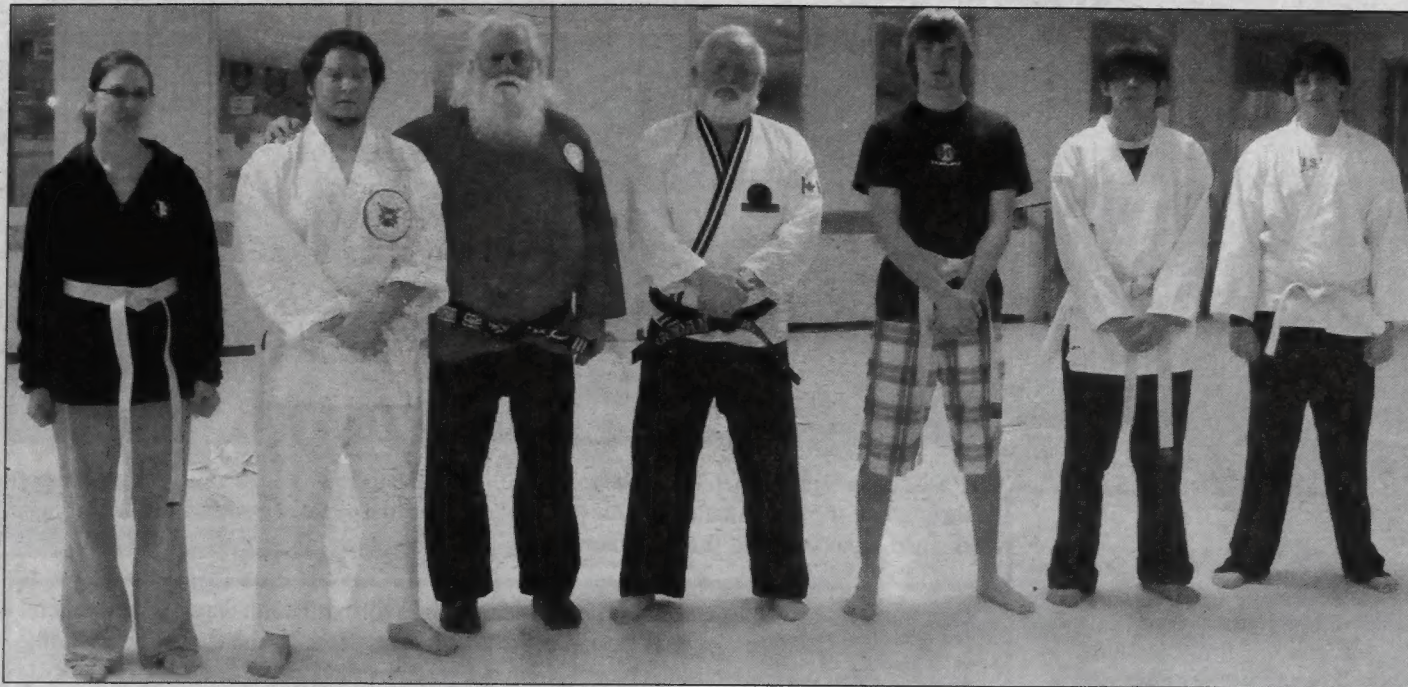
Tickets for this family show are available at:
S.G. Nesbitt Arena - 55 Parkside Ave., Minden
Minden Hills Township Office - 7 Milne St., Minden
Minden Times Office - 2 IGA Rd., Minden
Henwood's Variety - 177 Highland St., Haliburton

To Reserve Your Advanced Tickets for this
family show by Credit Card Call: 286-1936
Monday to Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
www.Minden150.ca

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1858-2008

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Yellow belts

A 10-week self-defence course that took place at the Minden Hills Community Centre this fall drew 27 students and five of those students received their yellow belts in karate on December 8. The program was sponsored by the township's parks and recreation committee and was free to participants. Pictured here are students Sonya Samson and Andrew Nesbitt, guest sensei Bob Nesbitt, head sensei Ron Nesbitt and students Kevin Brand, Anthony Manas'chmielowski and Jerry Hutchings. Nesbitt said the participants worked very hard and he feels they are better people for having taken the course. He would like hold another course if interest continues.

THE FAST LANE

League Statistics – Monday Night Mixed

Monday, December 22, 2008

Men

High Average: Rick West 225
High Single: Rick West 324
High Triple: Rick West 870
High Single w/hdcp: Rick West 325
High Triple w/hdcp: Rick West 906

Women

High Average: Janine Duckworth 155
High Single: Carol Gilligan 255
High Triple: Carol Gilligan 572
High Single w/hdcp: Carol Gilligan 326
High Triple w/hdcp: Carol Gilligan 785

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FREE PUBLIC SKATING S.G. Nesbitt Arena - Minden Holiday Schedule 11AM - 1PM

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all of our sponsors throughout the year for our many township events and advertising sponsorships, and wish each and every one of you a joyous and safe Christmas Season.

- Jan 2 Sponsored by Tim Hortons
- Jan 4 Sponsored by Tim Horton's
- Jan 5 Sponsored by Floyd Hall Insurance
- Jan 6 Modern Electric
- Jan 7 Sponsored by Northern Lights Canada
- Jan 8 Minden Hills
- Jan 9 Sponsored by Gull River Plumbing
- Jan 11 Sponsored by Highland Lakes Comm. Church

Parents & Tots 10:30-noon Tues/Wed – FREE!

Adults skating 12:00-1:50 Tues/Wed
- by donation!

For information on becoming a sponsor
call 705-286-1936

Get Active & Have Some Fun! After School Sporting Program

When: 4-6PM Thursdays & Fridays

Where: ASES, Minden Arena & Fairgrounds

Basketball Thursdays & Fridays

Jan 8 to Feb 13

For children ages 8 - 13

\$10.00 for the whole session

Call for sign up & registration: Rick Cox at 286-1260 ext. 220

Robin Hewitt at 286-1260 ext. 222

**MINDEN
150
1858-2008**

2009 MARKS THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY

of the founding of the community and we have a year-long celebration planned. If Minden is your home, or if the community enjoys a warm spot in your heart, we invite you to join us for the party...for more information, please visit www.minden150.ca.

FIT KIDS! Ages 2-6

FRIDAYS - 10:30-11:30

Minden Hills Community Centre

Call for sign up & registration: Brenda Duncan at 286-4625

MEETINGS & EVENTS

December 31-Jan 2 Township office closed
December 31 Minden Hills New Year's Party-See page 13 for details
January 5 Minden Hill Office Open
January 9 Agnes Jamieson Gallery-Opening Reception for Grade 8 Art Exhibition 3:30pm
January 15, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m. Committee of the Whole mtg
The village of Minden is holding a birthday party...
... and you are invited!

NOTICE

In January 2009 Committee of the whole/General Council Meeting Date
Public notice is hereby given that the January 2009 Committee of the Whole/General Council Meeting has been re-scheduled to Thursday, January 15th, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 7 Milne Street, Minden.

A schedule of all Committee of the Whole and regular Council Meetings can be found on the Township's website, www.mindenhills.ca or by contacting:
Cheryl McCarroll, AMCT/Clerk
(705) 286-1260 ext. 214

COURTESY TO SNOW REMOVAL STAFF

All residents are asked to be courteous to staff removing snow from roads and sidewalks for the safety of our employees and ratepayers – please do not follow snowplowing equipment too close as they require an area to reverse and move about while removing snow. Please stop well back (minimum of 50 metres) to allow intersections and tight areas to be cleaned – with everyone's cooperation the snow removal process can be completed that much faster and safer.

Thank you, Council and staff of the Township of Minden Hills

ATTENTION

Any person parking on township maintained roadways during the winter months that prohibits removal of snow will be towed at the owner's expense.

NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF Minden St. Paul's Anglican Cemetery, Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery, Gelert Cemetery, Bethel United Cemetery and Milburn Cemetery;
TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has passed By-Law No. 08-72 Schedule "G" and By-Law 08-77 a By-Law regulating Cemeteries.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the applicant, Registrar or any person with an interest therein may, within 15 days after the publications of this notice refer the decision to the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing.
This By-Law is subject to the approval of the Ministry of Consumer and Business Services.

Any interested parties may contact the undersigned, or to receive a copy of the amended By-Law:

Dated at the Municipality of Minden Hills December 22, 2008

Mr. Rick Cox Director of Community Services
P.O. Box 359 7 Milne Street Ontario K0M2K0
(705) 286-1260 ext 220

WINTER SAND

will no longer be available at the Fleming Road-Roads Shed, effective immediately. Complimentary winter sand for personal use will be available in the parking lot at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

IN THE EVENT OF A TOWNSHIP RELATED EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS,
PLEASE CALL: 1-866-856-3247. FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES DIAL 9-1-1

*Wishing everyone a safe,
healthy and prosperous 2009.*
From the Council and Staff
of the Township of Minden Hills

**MINDEN
150
1858-2008**

TONIGHT!

Minden's Sesquicentennial

New Year's Celebration

Outside For Everyone!

Torch Parade ~ 8PM

Bonfire ~ 8:30PM

Fireworks ~ 9PM

Upstairs in the Community Centre!

Music By Gord Kidd & the 50/50 Rockin

Country Band ~ Casual Dress

Midnight Buffet

Adults \$20.00 admission

Downstairs on the Ice!

Youth & Teen Skate & Pizza Party

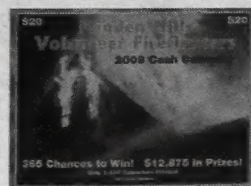
8:30-Midnight ~ \$5.00 admission

More info www.minden150.ca

LANDFILL SITES – All landfill sites will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day – otherwise, regular dates and times will apply.

FACT OF INTEREST

A beautiful old building chinked with mud housed the first village school, about a quarter of a mile north of the river, in the same area as the public school now sits. Early spring, fall and winter the road was impassable much of the time and it was hard for children to attend school regularly. John Unger was one of the first teachers who taught in Minden.



Support the Minden
Hills Volunteer
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Minden Hills Township Office

150th party lasts all year

from page 1

The evening will also include free skating from 6 to 8:15 p.m., horse and wagon rides and a musical performance by Gord Kidd and the 50/50 Rockin' Country Band that will run into the wee hours.

"We want this night to have something for everyone," said sesquicentennial planning committee co-chair Jack Brezina. "We're

inviting all of Haliburton County to come celebrate with us."

"It's going to be a very exciting year for Minden this year," said Minden Hills Reeve Jim McMahon. "[New Year's Eve] is going to be a sign of what's to come during the rest of the year. A hundred and fifty years is something to really be proud of and I'm honoured to be reeve during this exciting period."

Senior Accountant

Are you an experienced accountant with excellent attention to detail? Do you work well within a team, learning from your teammates and sharing your knowledge? Do you take pride in getting things done right, but are not afraid to look beyond the routines to make things better? Are you currently working towards a professional accounting designation and have at least three years accounting experience? Do you love what you do and know how to have fun?

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Fax (705) 457-5273
dhuhtalo@patientnews.com

Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Fireworks will light up the sky over Minden tonight as the sesquicentennial celebrations get underway.



Sesquicentennial celebrations continue throughout the year, including anniversary-themed events during this summer's Tim-

berfest and a special birthday party on April 1, the date that witnessed the founding of Minden in 1859.

For the eleventh year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. Help us reach our **\$95,000 Holiday Goal** to invest in the technology for Diagnostic Imaging.

As of December 24th, 2008, we have raised \$61,204.60 towards our goal. Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals;

Larry & Cheryl Grigg

Peter Bennett

Harry & Eunice Heyes

Steven & Nellie Walchuk

Esther Lewis

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Marion Tallman

David & Linda Carroll

Ronda Fox

Kenneth & Gayle Miles

Boris & Kathryn Petroff

Sylvia Bonis

Ronald & L. Clegg

Marilyn Michelin

Bruce & Gloria Creamer

M. E. Thomas

Lewis & Patricia Kyte

Sam & Bonnie Charlton

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thanks our Honorary Chairman for our 2008 "Reach For The Future" campaign, Dr. Steve Ferracuti and Dr. Dave Fiddler.

If you would like to help us "Reach For The Future" this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0, you can deposit your gift in the donations boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities, or you can donate online at www.hhhs.on.ca/foundation.htm.



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HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE

Don't ruin the holiday season in a moment of indulgence. Drunk driving collisions not only destroy & devastate the lives of victims & their families, but it will also ruin the life of an impaired driver.

IF YOU'RE IMPAIRED BY ALCOHOL OR DRUGS, DON'T DRIVE!

Support Project Red Ribbon:
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How does alcohol affect a driver?

How does alcohol affect a driver?

How does alcohol affect a driver?

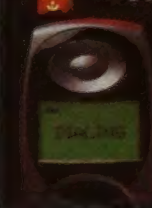
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How does alcohol affect a driver?

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Friday evening mixed league. Winners of the regular schedule, from left, with the Remax Haliburton Highlands Realty Trophy, Jack and Winn Taylor and Donelda and Gord MacLean.

Minden wraps up curling season



Monday evening ladies. Winners of the regular schedule and the playoffs, from left, Sue Ripley, Pat Woodcroft, Gwen Turner and Jean Broersma.



Thursday evening mixed. Winners of the regular schedule, from left, Eric Casper presents the Casper Cup to Bruce Fisher, Gwen Turner, Ed Joseph and Bill Roodenburg.



Tuesday evening mens. Winners of the regular schedule and the playoffs, from left, Dave Millington, Bert Kennedy, Bruce Fisher and Scotty Boyd.



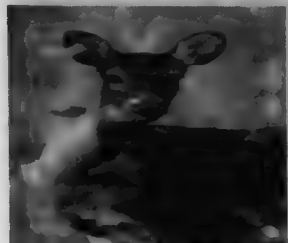
Friday evening mixed league. Winners of the playoffs, from left, Eric Casper presents the Clarica Trophy to Iain Kaye, Joyce Nilsson, Audrey Robson and Steve Robson.



Thursday evening mixed. Winners of the playoffs, from left, with the Minden Times Trophy, Ed Cyr, Anne Marie Cyr, Joan Duhaime and Dave McClory.

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community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

- December 31: New Year's Eve Dance - At the Kinmount Legion Hall at 9 p.m. Sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441.
- December 31: Wilberforce Legion Branch 624 is hosting our Annual New Years Celebration - 9-1:30 p.m. Party favors, light lunch, lots of fun. \$35 couple, \$18 single.
- December 31: Last day to register for Community Care's Easy Yoga Fit class. Ida 457-2941. Classes begin January 8th.
- December 31: Last day to register for Community Care's Gentle Exercise Aquasize. Ida 457-2941. Classes begin January 12th.
- January 3: Wilberforce Legion Br #624 Monthly Karaoke - From 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Come and sing your favourite song.
- January 5: Ontario Early Years Centre re-opens in Haliburton and Minden
- January 5: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 1 p.m. for Contract Bridge 457-2941
- January 7: Join Community Care's Diners Club at Win Yeung. Pre-registration required. 457-2941
- January 8: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 10 a.m. for linedancing. 457-2941
- January 8: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 1 p.m. for Bid Euchre. 457-2941
- January 8: Join Community Care at 4:30 p.m. for Yoga Pre-registration required. 457-2941
- January 9: Wilberforce Legion Branch #624 Potluck and Jam Session - Potluck starts at 7 p.m. and the jam session starts around 8:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy some great dishes and music after.
- January 9: Join Community Care's Diners Club at Wilberforce Legion. Pre-registration required. 457-2941.
- January 9: Join Community Care in the drop-in centre for Cribbage. 457-2941.
- January 12: Taoist Tai Chi Society - Taoist Tai Chi Society(R) - new classes beginning in Haliburton, Minden and Wilberforce. Please call Brenda at 447-2148 for more information. Taoist Tai Chi(R) is a gentle form of exercise which helps people of all ages to improve their balance, flexibility and strength.
- January 12: Join Community Care's Aquasize program. Pre-registration required. 457-2941
- January 19: Wilberforce Heritage Guild Annual Meeting - Will be held at the Lloyd Watson Centre at 7 p.m. All welcomed. Refreshments
- January 24: Teachings Round the Moon Calendar at the Full Moon - Learn about the moon calendar as Alice Miller has produced a unique 2008 calendar based on the moon cycles and the art of her father, Native artist, Gordon Miller. Join her on the Full Moon at 1032 Cameron Lane, off the Barry Line for a fascinating evening in which she'll share Native stories, symbolism and traditions depicted in her father's art. \$20 includes a calendar. Call Gaia Centre near West Guilford to register 754-2427.
- January 30: 2009 Taylor Cup Pond Hockey Championships - 4-on-4 pond hockey tournament from January 30 to February 1st at Bayview Wildwood Resort on Sparrow Lake, just north of Orillia in support of the Princess Margaret Hospital Cancer Research Fund. For more info, directions and registration visit www.taylorcup.ca

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Minden Times at 286-4768, emailed to editor@mindentimes.ca, or brought in to the office. Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date. NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in The Times for more information on events in the Highlands.

New year hopefully brings new tricks



AROUND THE TOWN

Patti Fleury

488-2938 Fax: 488-1246

email: brucefleury@ptbo.igs.net

Life is beginning to return to normal here at the old farmhouse after a busy holiday season complete with a family Christmas plus a Christmas morning birthday and a 50th wedding anniversary to celebrate. We were fortunate not to lose the electricity over the weekend and can only imagine the discomfort and frustration of the many area residents who did. My major gift was an incredible HP Touchscreen computer with a wireless mouse and keyboard. Whether this will improve my writing style will have to wait until I master all its features. Something to be said for that phrase about "trying to teach an old dog new tricks" but I'll give it my best shot. Woof!

From our house to you and yours best wishes for a New Year filled with good health, happiness and satisfaction.

Holiday highlights at the Kinmount Legion include the New Year's Eve Dance on December 31 with D.J. Tommy Williamson from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. On Thursday, January 1 everyone is invited to drop by the branch during the afternoon for the annual President's Levee and on January 4, the Marg Viney Memorial Open Ladies Dart Tournament will be held with registration at 9:30 a.m. and the competi-

tion starting at 10 a.m. For more information on these events and others, contact the legion at 488-3462.

Public skating continues at the Kinmount arena located on the fairgrounds this Friday, January 2, from 7 to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, January 3, from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, January 4, minor hockey will be held at the rink at 1 p.m. with public skating to follow around 3 p.m. Please note that the ice is available for group rentals and enquiries can be directed to Glen Weiler, Kinmount & District Lions Club, at 488-1513. The rink is a natural ice surface and appreciation is extended to those community volunteers who have worked so hard to bring back the ice and maintain it.

The Kinmount Artisans Marketplace will once again close for the month of January for upgrading of the display and storage areas along with other measures to make the Marketplace an even better shopping and learning experience. The expected date to reopen is January 31 at 10 a.m. then continuing on the winter schedule of extended weekends including Friday, Saturday and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Now for the scoring news with your usual reminder to keep busy and well. They go together. Due to the holidays most events have been rescheduled to early January. If unsure contact the convenor or give a call here for that number.

December 23 Stanhope Firehall Seniors Mixed Shuffleboard: Top team members were June Fortune and George Hamilton

with 346 points then Dorene Elstone and Jim Meadows in second spot at 218. At 178 our reporter Pearl Cowen partnered with Cliff Davison claimed third place while Colleen Davison and Merv Elstone tied with Eleanor Lymer going solo at 107 for the afternoon's low score.

December 23 euchre at Gelert: Harold Harvie reports that Lorna Hicks took the lone hand honours with Rita Crofts high lady and Eleanor Young low. For the gents Rae Shepherd had the high score and Bruce Shepherd the low with Eleanor Young also winning the draw prize.

December 29 Kinmount Seniors bid euchre at Kinmount Legion: The top trio in order were Theresa Deak first, Frank Franzen second and John Deak third. Emily Harvie was the draw winner with Ida Young, Marion Leslie and Theresa Deak taking the afternoon's moonshots. Thanks to Pauline Franzen for this update.

December 29 euchre at Staunworth Terrace, Minden: Don Jemmett reports that Sherin Brown won for high hands, Barb Callaghan for lone hands, Bev Johnson for low hands and Doreen French for the special prize.

NOTICES & TENDERS FOR:



**SEE PAGE 9 IN
TODAY'S PAPER**



NOTICE

Township of Algonquin Highlands

The Regular Meeting of Council
scheduled for **Thursday, January 8, 2009**
has been **CANCELLED**.

The next Regular Meeting will be held
Thursday, January 22, 2009
as previously scheduled.

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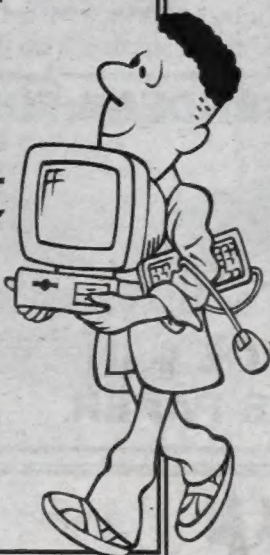
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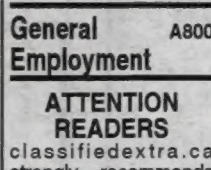
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A940

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Announcements

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*Send
Anniversary
wishes through
the classified
section of the
Minden Times*

Thank You Cards

The family of the late Margaret Feero would like to extend their sincere gratitude to all the nurses, caregivers and staff at Hyland Crest, mom was very fortunate to have all of you looking out for her. To Dwaine, Lori and Molly at Haliburton Community Funeral Home for your caring and expertise during this trying time. To Dr. Kristy Gammon for all her care for mom during her stay at Hyland Crest. To all our friends and relatives that were there when we needed a shoulder, refreshments and food or just to talk, our heartfelt thanks go out to you all. Thank you for all the calls and cards of condolence and your donations in mom's name to Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Les and Carol Feero and Family.

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Jacob Rauche

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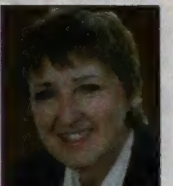
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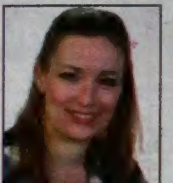
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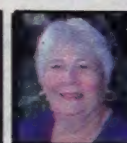
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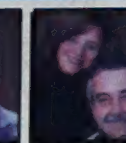
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